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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/495,175	02/01/2000	Ana Belen Benitez	2000-0025	4490

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EXAMINER

PRIETO, BEATRIZ

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2002

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/495,175

Applicant(s)

BENITEZ ET AL.

Examiner

B. PRIETO

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Detailed Action

1. Drawings have been objected to by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152, correction noted on PTO-948 is required. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to this office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings are no longer held in abeyance. If reply does not include corrected drawings, proposed corrections, or reply to the drawings requirement, the reply would be held non-responsive.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sezan, et. al. (Sezan) MPEG-7 Standardization Activities, ICIP 1998.

Regarding claim 1, Sezan teaches substantial features of the invention as claimed, teaching a system/method for combining, linking and associating multimedia descriptors for efficient means for archival and retrieval of multimedia content;

collected multimedia information content (introduction, page 517);

generating multimedia descriptors (descriptor, page 518, Fig. 1, description generation) for each multimedia features of classified data type (i.e. categorized multimedia), (data defined as audio video, text and any other medium, feature, page 518, description categories, page 519);

using a multimedia description scheme (D, DS, DDL, page 518) to generate description for multiple multimedia types particularly audio, video, interface to textual description, and combination of these (i.e. multimedia integration description scheme) (applicability, page 519);

integrated multimedia description code generated from the multimedia integration description scheme is stored in a database and communicated to a search engine (left column, page 518); however Sezan teachings of generating multimedia descriptors for each multimedia

features of classified data type including audio video, text and any other medium, is not called a "classification";

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Sezan's teachings to execute claimed invention performing the same functions as claimed, motivation would be utilize description definition language based on discussed descriptors to generate schemes for database organization for fast and efficient retrieval using search engines of MPEG-7 multimedia, as taught by Sezan.

Regarding claim 2, categories include video (Sezan: wherein media data information(s) is categorized as such as audio and/or visual data (i.e. audio, video, text), other media types or any combination of these (Fig. 1, and left column, page 519).

Regarding claim 3, descriptors define multimedia content (descriptors and description, page 518).

Regarding claim 4, descriptors include values (Sezan: value, e.g. mood of an image or pitch of audio, see features, page 518).

Regarding claim 5, compatibility MPEG-7 (Sezan: abstract).

Regarding claim 6, scheme includes video (Sezan: introduction, page 517).

Regarding claim 7, description scheme are based on description definition language (see DS, description, coded description and DDL, page 518).

Regarding claim 8, providing from a database the integrated multimedia description to a search engine in response to a query (left column, page 518).

Regarding claims 9-10, multimedia represented as hierarchy of object (Sezan: features hierarchy, page 519), i.e. and entity relation graph.

4. Claims 11-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sezan, et. al. (Sezan) MPEG-7 Standardization Activities, ICIP 1998 in view of Patel in article, XML: Extensible Markup Language, Patel, P., July 1998.

Regarding claim 11, the above prior art however does not teach wherein descriptors include document type e.g. XML;

Patel teaches wherein descriptor document type include XML, wherein XML and SQL are similar in (search engines) purpose, SQL is a standardized language categorized into one of three broad sections: DDL, DML, and DQL, using DDL to define your data, DQL to query user defined data, and DML to manipulate your data.

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include a document type definition as XML, motivation would be to further extend Sezan teaching of using a document type such as SGML, because XML is less complicated than SGML, it lets the user develop structured documents similar to SGML documents but removes many of the complex, less-used features of SGML, such as complex entity references, XML also makes it easier to create document type definitions and share them over the Web, as further suggested by Patel.

Regarding 12, search in response to user's query (Sezan: page 518).

Regarding claim 13, this claim comprises the system for integrating multimedia descriptions discussed above on claim 1, rejected for obviousness under U.S.C. 103, this same rationale is also applied to system claim, claimed in terms of function, property or characteristic.

Regarding claims 14-24, these claims comprises the system for integrating multimedia descriptions discussed above on claims 2-12, respectively, rejected for obviousness under U.S.C. §103, this same rationale is also applied to system claim, claimed in terms of function, property or characteristic.

Citation of Pertinent Art:

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure; Copies of documents cited will be provided as set forth in MPEP§ 707.05(a):

Ref A: Multimedia content description in the InfoPyramid, Chung-Sheng Li; Mohan, R.; Smith, J.R, Acoustics, Speech & Signal Processing, IEEE Conference, 12-15 May 1998, ACM ISBN: 0-7803-4428-6, pages 3789-3792.

Li et. al. teaches Disclose generating multimedia descriptors, the descriptors describe multimedia content from multimedia categories such as image, audio, video, synthetic, text and a combination or synthesis of these categories, the descriptors include descriptor values associated with the features or characteristics of said multimedia content. Descriptor along with the descriptor values may be combined using the multimedia description scheme, how these elements are combined (i.e. integrated) in a multimedia presentation (scenario), wherein the scheme is based on a description definition language. The description scheme is compatible with MPEG-7. The code generated by the multimedia description scheme is used for efficient user query formation and processing using search engines-based queries.

Ref B: MPEG-7: Context and Objective, version 10, ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29/WG11 N2460, MPEG98, Oct. 1998, pages 1-11.

Disclose generating multimedia descriptors (Figs. 2-4), the descriptors describe multimedia content from multimedia categories such as image, audio, video, synthetic, text and a combination or synthesis of these categories, the descriptors include descriptor values associated with the features or characteristics of said multimedia content. Descriptor along with the descriptor values may be combined using the multimedia description scheme, where audiovisual material that has MPEG7 data is associated and indexed and searched for, such as images, graphics, 3D models, audio and describes how these elements are combined (i.e. integrated) in a multimedia presentation (scenario) or links to other relevant multimedia, wherein the scheme is based on a description definition language. The description scheme is compatible with MPEG-7. The code generated by the multimedia description scheme is used for efficient user query formation and processing using search engines-based queries.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prieto, B. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0750. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:00 to 3:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Mark H. Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-6606. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800/4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or Faxed to:

(703) 746-7239, for Official communications and entry

Or:


(703) 746-7240, for Non-Official or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT".

Or Telephone:

(703) 306-5631 for TC 2100 Customer Service Office.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor

(Receptionist), further ensuring that a receipt is provided stamped "TC 2100".


B. Prieto
GAU 2142/TC 2100
Patent Examiner
October 17, 2002


MARK H. RINEHART
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100